

HOUSE No. 2559

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joseph D. McKenna and Susannah M. Whipps

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act creating a commission to study the PILOT formula and disbursement.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>John Barrett, III</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>
<i>Michael S. Day</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>
<i>Ryan C. Fattman</i>	<i>Worcester and Norfolk</i>
<i>Michael J. Soter</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>

HOUSE No. 2559

By Representatives McKenna of Webster and Whipps of Athol, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2559) of Joseph D. McKenna and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the valuation and distribution of payments in lieu of taxes to cities and towns for state owned land. Revenue.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act creating a commission to study the PILOT formula and disbursement.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 1. There shall be a commission to study the valuation and distribution of
2 Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) to cities and towns for State Owned Land (SOL). The
3 commission shall (i) examine the current methods used to determine valuations for the parcels
4 owned by the state to be reimbursed, (ii) Examine the formula used to distribute said
5 reimbursements to municipalities, (iii) evaluate the effectiveness and equity of said formula, and
6 (iv) make recommendations to establish a formula that considers the current needs of
7 municipalities.

8 Section 2. The commission shall review all aspects of PILOT reimbursement financing,
9 including (i) Changes in acreage of SOL in a given community year to year as it relates to
10 PILOT funding year to year; (ii) the extent to which the formula reflects municipalities’ needs
11 and the proportional distribution PILOT; (iii) any equity disparities that exist among

12 municipalities, related to PILOT reimbursement; and (iv) any alternative formulas that may
13 create a more equitable distribution of PILOT reimbursements.

14 Section 3. The commission shall consist of the following members: (1) the Secretary of
15 the Executive Office for Administration and Finance, or a designee; (2) the Secretary of the
16 Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, or a designee; (3) the Secretary of
17 the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, or a designee; (4) the
18 Commissioner of the Department of Revenue or a designee; (5) the Senate Chair of the Joint
19 Committee on Revenue; (6) the House Chair of the Joint Committee on Revenue; (7) the Chair
20 of the Senate Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures, and State Assets; (8) the Chair of
21 the House Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures, and State Assets; (9) the House Chair
22 of the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture; (10) the Senate
23 Chair of the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture; (11) 1
24 member appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; (12) 1 member
25 appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; and (13) 3 persons appointed by the Governor,
26 as follows: (i) 1 representative from the Massachusetts Municipal Association;(iii) 1
27 representative from the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation; and (iv) 1 representative from the
28 Public Policy Center at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.

29 Section 4. The commission shall file a report of its findings and recommendations,
30 including any new or revised Payment in Lieu of Taxes Reimbursement formulas, with the
31 Clerks of the Senate and House of Representatives and the Chairs of the Senate and House
32 Committees on Ways and Means no later than January 1, 2019.